

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 219314

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011  
DRAFTED BY: EA:RWTEARE  
APPROVED BY: EA-MR HUMMEL  
S/S-O:RMPERITO  
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R 090048Z SEP 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 219314

EXDIS ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 219314 DTG 032017Z SEP 76 SENT  
ACTION AMERICAN EMBASSY MANILA

QTE

S E C R E T STATE 219314

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, OVIP, RP (ROMULO, CARLOS P.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH ROMULO

REF: A. MANILA 13393, B. MANILA 13421

1. YOU ARE TO SEEK EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH MARCOS AND DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECRETARY:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO COMMUNICATE  
SECRET

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DIRECTLY WITH YOU IN THIS MANNER GIVEN THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS. I HAVE BEEN UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT WE HAD AGREED THAT A RAPID CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE DESIRABLE BEFORE THEY BECAME INVOLVED IN

POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS.

I AM FRANKLY IN NEED OF SOME CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE MESSAGES AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN HAS BEEN RECEIVING REGARDING MY OWN INVOLVEMENT IN FURTHERING OUR JOINT EFFORTS TOWARD ACHIEVING A SATISFACTORY BASE AGREEMENT. I HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT YOU WISHED ME TO VISIT MANILA TO RESOLVE KEY POLITICAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS. IT TURNED OUT I WAS UNABLE TO COME IN AUGUST BUT I PROPOSED GOING TO MANILA IN OCTOBER, PROVIDING MY VISIT COULD BE USEFUL, TO BRING ABOUT THE SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

I WAS THEN INFORMED THAT YOU PROPOSED, AT LEAST AS AN INTERIM STEP, THAT FOREIGN MINISTER ROMULO AND AMBASSADOR ROMULADEZ COULD COME TO WASHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER TO MEET WITH ME. WE WOULD THEREBY LAY THE BASIS FOR RESOLVING OUTSTANDING ISSUES, IN PREPARATION FOR MY TRIP TO MANILA WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE CLEMENTS IN OCTOBER. WE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO THAT SUGGESTION.

AS I UNDERSTAND YOUR PRESENT WISH, AS GIVEN TO AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN BY AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ, YOU HAVE NOW REQUESTED AN ANSWER TO THE AIDE-MEMOIRE PRESENTED TO DEPUTY SECRETARY ROBINSON AS A NECESSARY PRELIMINARY TO ANY MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL ROMULO AND MYSELF. THIS IS PUZZLING, AND IS PARTICULARLY SO BECAUSE DEPUTY SECRETARY ROBINSON INFORMS ME THAT YOU INDICATED IN YOUR PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH HIM THAT A REPLY TO THE AIDE-MEMOIRE NEED NOT NECESSARILY BE IN WRITING. IT WAS ON THIS BASIS THAT I SUGGESTED THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY CLEMENTS AND I WOULD VISIT IN OCTOBER, AMONG OTHER THINGS TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES SET FORTH IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE.

I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT THERE ARE SO MANY INTANGIBLES INVOLVED IN THE ASSURANCES YOU HAVE REQUESTED THAT TO ATTEMPT TO PUT THEM IN WRITING AT THIS EARLY STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS WOULD NOT BE USEFUL, AND THAT IT WOULD BE  
SECRET

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PREFERABLE TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES FACE-TO-FACE. THIS WOULD GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO FULLY UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S VIEWS AND EXPLORE WAYS TO MEET EACH OTHER'S NEEDS BEFORE ANY FORMAL REPLY IS GIVEN.

I WOULD WELCOME YOUR REACTION TO THESE VIEWS. I AM, OF COURSE, STILL PREPARED TO MEET WITH GENERAL ROMULO FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AND THIS CAN TAKE PLACE AT A CONVENIENT TIME DURING HIS ATTENDANCE AT THE FORTHCOMING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. FOLLOWING THAT WE CAN DECIDE HOW WE CAN TAKE THE MOST PRODUCTIVE STEPS TOWARD COMPLETING THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING A FACE-TO-FACE DISCUSSION OF THE BASIC ISSUES. IF EARLY OCTOBER TURNS OUT TO BE INCONVEN-

I AM PREPARED TO CONSIDER A DATE LATER IN THE YEAR.

WITH WARMEST REGARDS,

SINCERELY,

HENRY A. KISSINGER

2. FYI. WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN THAT MARCOS MAY BE SEEKING

TO MANEUVER US INTO A POSITION WHERE HE CAN PIN US WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A BREAKDOWN OR INDEFINITE RECESS IN THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS. CURRENT WASHINGTON PLANNING CALLS FOR HIGHEST LEVEL CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES POSED BY PHILIPPINE AIDE-MEMOIRE AND THIS PROCESS IS UNLIKELY TO BE COMPLETED MUCH BEFORE ROMULO'S PROPOSED VISIT HERE LATE THIS MONTH. HOPEFULLY AS PRE-CONDITION TO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS, FILIPINOS WILL NOT INSIST ON WRITTEN REPLY. MEANWHILE, WE WILL PROCEED WITH CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUES POSED IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE. WHEN WE HAVE RECEIVED MARCOS REACTION TO ABOVE MESSAGE WE WILL THEN REVIEW WHERE WE GO FROM HERE. END FYI. ROBINSON UNQTE KISSINGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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